

HONORING DIONNE WARWICK ON
HER 50TH ANNIVERSARY IN THE
RECORDING INDUSTRY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of my good friend and outstanding recording artist Dionne Warwick as she proudly celebrates her 50th year in the recording industry.

M. Dionne Warwick has, over an illustrious four-decade career, established herself as an international musical legend. Her reputation as a hit maker has been firmly etched into public consciousness, thanks to nearly 60 charted hits since "Don't Make Me Over" began its climb up the charts in December 1962. As a performer, she has charmed and entertained audiences on every continent, amassing a worldwide audience. Dionne received her first Grammy Award in 1968, and in doing so became the first African-American solo female artist of her generation to win the prestigious award for Best Contemporary Female Vocal Performance.

In recent years, Dionne's pioneering efforts have focused on leading the music industry in the fight against AIDS. Her Grammy-winning, chart topping, single "That's What Friends Are For," lead the way by raising, literally, millions of dollars for AIDS research. Throughout the world, Dionne has devoted countless hours to a wide range of humanitarian causes, serving as the U.S. Ambassador for Health throughout the Eighties. In 2002, she was named a global Ambassador for the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization. Dionne has spearheaded the long overdue development and production of a history book that will detail African and African-American history for use in schools, libraries, and bookstores throughout the world. She continues her work as a socially conscious and concerned global citizen.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my fellow colleagues join me in celebration for such a national icon. With such a legacy of accomplishments and achievements, there is no question on how she has lasted over 50 years in the music business. As she looks forward to another decade of great music, nothing seems impossible to Dionne, a woman who has inspired and empowered millions through her music, her performances, and her work as a humanitarian.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL DAY FOR
THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON
TAIWAN

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the people and leaders of the Republic

of China on Taiwan as their day of National Celebration, October 10, 2011, approaches. This special day recognizes the founding of the country and this year the anniversary is especially powerful as October 10, 2011 marks the end of a "Spectacular Century" and the beginning of another great century for the Republic of China.

I would like to highlight the economic success of the Republic of China on Taiwan over the last century, a success which has rightly been called a miracle. Beginning with very little economic activity just a few decades ago, the Republic of China on Taiwan now has a dynamic economy which is the envy of the world. Moreover, Taiwan has been a fair trading partner; while total trade with the United States reached an all-time high in 2010, almost half of this trade total, \$251 billion, was due to the Republic of China importing goods from the United States. In fact, U.S. exports to the Republic of China have grown even during the Great Recession, creating jobs all across America. Our relationship is a model for fair trade between countries benefiting both sides, a model we should highlight here today.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan on their economic success and thanking them for their continued efforts to work with the United States to foster economic growth in our country. When the day of National Celebration arrives, the people of both the United States and the Republic of China on Taiwan have much to celebrate.

224TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGN-
ING OF THE UNITED STATES
CONSTITUTION

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Mr. NUNES, to commemorate the 224th anniversary of the signing of the United States Constitution on September 17, 1787, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The signing of the Constitution by thirty-nine delegates to the Constitutional Convention, led by George Washington, represents the formal beginning of our Republic. In conjunction with the Bill of Rights, the Constitution is one of the greatest documents in history, a model for more than 100 governments around the world; what President Lincoln describes in his Gettysburg Address as a "government of the people, by the people, for the people."

Mr. Speaker, please join Mr. NUNES and me in celebrating the 224th anniversary of this historic day, and in recognizing the contribution of the U.S. Constitution to American freedom.

HONORING GOLD STAR MOTHER
OF CAPTAIN KIMBERLY HAMPTON

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following remarks from Mrs. Ann Hampton, who recently traveled to the Kurdish Region of Iraq. She is the proud Gold Star Mother of Captain Kimberly Hampton, who was killed in action on January 2, 2004, in Fallujah, Iraq.

"My recent trip to the Kurdistan Region of Iraq was everything I hoped it would be, and more! Traveling with another gold star mom and dad, a medically retired soldier, and the founder of the Friends of Kurdistan Foundation, the visit was filled with welcome events. We met several Kurdistan Regional Government officials, who all willingly gave us their undivided attention and treated us graciously. We were told over and over that their nation is our nation, their homes, our homes, and that we share the bonds of friendship forever. Their deep appreciation to the United States for liberating them from Saddam's tyrant regime knows no end. They said thanks.

"We visited hospitals, clinics, and villages in Kurdistan where progress is being made just as there are still hurdles ahead. We visited homes and were welcomed with open arms. We visited the home of a widow who lost 20 family members in one of the regime's chemical attacks. She fed us cantaloupe, bread and water, almost all she had. We visited a camp and were fed peaches and water, almost all they had.

"One very important thing Kurds and other Iraqis do have now is hope; hope for peace, security and maybe one day, prosperity. There was significant construction across Iraqi Kurdistan, which is a good sign that people have risen and taken charge of their freedoms, and serve also as role models to peoples in other countries in the Middle East and North Africa.

"I am very grateful for the opportunity to visit Kurdistan, and hope to go back again to continue my humanitarian work. Seeing and hearing the appreciation of the Kurdish people for the U.S. has made a tremendous impact on my healing, as a proud mother of an American soldier, Kimberly, killed in action liberating Iraq. The only way to move forward is by strengthening people-to-people links between Americans and Iraqis, in and out of government. The people of Kurdistan extended their hand to me, and I am grateful."

As the co-chairman of the Kurdish Regional Congressional Caucus I have visited the Region, and my oldest son led an Army National Guard convoy through the Region. We share the optimism of Mrs. Hampton that the liberated Kurdish Region of Iraq has a bright future of peace, security, and prosperity as a friend of America.